

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 25 with the following rewritten version:

Even when the blades 44 are to be fixed to the end plate 43, similar to when they are fixed to the end ~~plate~~ ring 45, the plural blades 44 must be disposed at predetermined fixing positions, but a plate-side guide mechanism for positioning the blades 44 is disposed in the impeller 42 of the present embodiment. The plate-side guide mechanism is configured by the end portions 44a of the blades 44 at the end plate 43 side (specifically, the plate-side edge portions 56 of the blade bodies 51 and the plate-side edge portions 66 of the blade covers 61), wing-shaped protrusions 43c that are formed on the end plate 43 and into which the end portions 44a are insertable, and positioning protrusions 43d that are insertable into the positioning holes 56c formed in the end portions 44a (specifically, the plate-side body end portions 56a). The wing-shaped protrusions 43c have a shape along the shape of the peripheral edge portion of the end portions 44a. Thus, the end portions 44a of the blades 44 at the end plate 43 side can be positioned by the wing-shaped protrusions 43c and the positioning protrusions 43d of the end plate 43.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 4 with the following rewritten version:

Moreover, by using, as the material configuring the end plate 43 and the end ring 45, a material whose light transmittance is higher than that of the material configuring the plate bodies 51, the work of laser welding the end ~~ring~~ plate 43 and the plate bodies 51 together

can be conducted from the end plate 43 side, and the work of laser welding the end ring 45 and the plate bodies 45 together can be conducted from the end ring 45 side.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 20 with the following rewritten version:

For example, the blade bodies 51 and the end ~~ring~~ plate 43 may be integrally molded and the end ring 45 may be molded as a separate member. By configuring the invention in this manner, the blade covers 61 are attached to the blade bodies 51 integrally molded with the end plate 43 by fitting the blade covers 61 into the blade bodies 51, and the end ring 45 is fixed to the blade bodies 51, whereby the impeller 42 can be configured which promotes the hollowing of the blades 44 and prevents drawbacks such as squeaking and wind roar.